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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/672,571 09/27/00 SCHULZ

K 00-P-7411-US

MMC2/0321

SIEMENS CORPORATION
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT
186 WOOD AVENUE SOUTH
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EXAMINER

MCCAMEY, A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED:

03/21/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/672,571

Applicant(s)

SCHULZ ET AL.

Examiner

Ann M McCamey

Art Unit

2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.

- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 1, 5-15 and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Berg et al. (US 6,149,465).

Regarding claim 1, Berg et al. discloses a pluggable transceiver (Figure 7) comprising a housing 22 having a front end and a back end; and a cam 74 disposed on an exposed outer surface of the transceiver housing.

Regarding claims 5 and 17, Berg et al. discloses a release mechanism (see attachment) disposed on a surface of the transceiver housing.

Regarding claims 6 and 18, Berg et al. discloses the release mechanism comprises a release block.

Regarding claims 7 and 19, Berg et al. discloses the release block comprises a chamfered surface exposed.

Regarding claim 8, Berg et al. discloses a cage 24 comprising a housing having a front end and defining a slot 30; and a latch 75 disposed at the front end of the cage housing.

Regarding claim 9, Berg et al. discloses the latch includes a front end having an inner surface that flares outwardly away from an interior region of the cage housing.

Regarding claim 10, Berg et al. discloses the cage housing is configured.

Regarding claims 11 and 20, Berg et al. discloses an ejection mechanism 27.

Regarding claim 12, Berg et al. discloses a circuit card connector disposed in a back end of the cage housing (Column 3, Lines 55-58).

Regarding claim 13, Berg et al. discloses the cage latch is formed integrally with the cage housing.

Regarding claim 14, Berg et al. discloses the cage housing is configured.

Regarding claim 15, Berg et al. discloses a data coupling system comprising a pluggable transceiver 22 comprising a housing 32 having a front end and a cam 74 disposed on an exposed outer surface of the transceiver housing; and a cage 24 comprising a housing having a front end and defining a slot 30, and a latch 75 disposed at the front end of the cage housing.

Regarding the above claims, limitations following the phrase "configured to" do not define a limitation in a *patentable* sense.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2-4 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berg et al. as applied to claims 1 and 15 above, in view of Meyer-Guldner et al. (US 6,022,151).

Regarding claims 2 and 16, Berg et al. discloses the invention substantially as claimed but does not disclose the cam having a chamfered surface. Meyer-Guldner et al. teaches a chamfered surface for gradual and easy insertion of a latch mechanism. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to chamfer the surface of the cam of Berg et al. as Meyer-Guldner et al. teaches to reduce the insertion forces.

Regarding claim 3, Meyer-Guldner et al. teaches the chamfered surface is rectangular (Figure 2).

Regarding claim 4, Berg et al. shows the surface of the cam tapers from the front end to the back end.

Regarding the above claims, limitations following the phrase "configured to" do not define a limitation in a *patentable* sense.

Conclusion

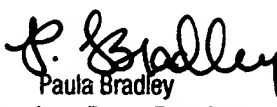
5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Doye et al. (US 6,095,862) and Babineau (US 6,135,793) disclose shielded connector housings with latch mechanisms.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ann M McCamey whose telephone number is (703) 305-3422. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (703) 308-2319. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

AMM
March 16, 2001


Paula Bradley
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800